At Home

The Farmington Observer/August 8, 1996

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smoke bush in tree form and P.G. hydrangea were also popular.

Fencing became simpler. Barbed wire used in the country was replaced with chain link fencing, then no fencing was the norm.

Going natural

From the 1910s to 1940s, bungalows were built bringing simplicity, utility and the handrafted feeling to homes. Furniture had a handrafted look; pottery was used for plants; planters were made of stones and concrete, and water gardening became the vogue. Bird baths and houses were placed in gardens as bird watching and feeding caught on. Foundation plantings were installed, and the lawn was an important part of the landscape.

Soon the landscape reverted back to straight lines, empty back yards. Plants were used to determine boundaries and patios or terraces for outdoor activities were constructed.

The new wild garden suited the naturalistic style of living. Soon gardens were designed with

Soon gardens were designed with different themes such as very formal rose gardens that contained floribundas and hybrid teas, and an old fashioned herb garden filled with soft colors. Sundials, statuary and gazing globes found a place in many gardens. Summer houses, pergolas, trellising and the back yard grape arbor joined forces with the single-car garage.

In the 1930s mixtures of plants with a lot of variety were used, and shrubs were most important. Barberry was one that was often used. The mixed border, the cottage-type garden with old traditional plants was popular at this time. A lot of wrought iron and lattice work was seen, and walks were paved with material to match the houses.

Delphiniums, peonles, iris, phlox and poppies with a pastel salmon flower, chrysanthemunus and sweet peas were also grown at this time. We are still enjoying these plants in our gardens.

Now it seems as though times are changing again back to a more relaxed and natural feel to gardens as we become more aware of our environment and ecosystems. Perhaps a few violets and dandelions in our yards don't really look all that bad, and who knows? If we all were more careful about using pesticides and insecticides, a whole new healthy world of beauty might be possible.

For Kunst's catalog, which is \$2, call (313) 995-1486 or write Old House Gardens, 536 Third St., Ann Arbor 48103-4957.



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PagaTSi

Patches: This 6-year-old female, spayed springer spaniel is liver and white in color and weighs 46 pounds. She's housebroken and great with children. She also likes dogs and cats. Patches and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, 3600 Auburn Road, 810-852-7420.

